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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATIONSOURCE

1. After completing 3 to 3½ years of service in the Border Guard Troops, EM could request retention for one or two years as sverkhstrochniki (EM serving beyond their terms). Such applications had to be in writing. The company CO and battalion CO had to endorse the application, and state reasons why it was advisable to retain the soldier as a sverkhstrochniki. Usually only NCO's applied and were approved. There was no pressure to retain capable NCO's as sverkhstrochniki.
2. The lowest grade of sverkhstrochniki was junior sergeant. Sverkhstrochniki received more pay than draftee NCO's for the same duties . They received the same amount of leave as officers, received officers' clothing issue (with regular EM shoulder boards), and could have their families with them at the garrison.
3. Few sverkhstrochniki served longer than two years in that status as most of them enrolled in OCS. Eighty to 90% of Border Guard Troops officer candidates were Border Guard Troops NCO's, while 10-20% were civilians who had 10 years of schooling or were graduates of technical institutes or colleges.
4. About one to two per cent of Border Guard Troops personnel were sverkhstrochniki. 50X1 380 officers and EM, the 2nd Bn., 68th Border Guard Det., there were seven sverkhstrochniki. Three were the First Sergeants of the 8th, 9th and 10th Co's, 2nd Bn. One was a master sergeant (Starshina) in 2nd Bn. Supply, and one was a master sergeant serving as sergeant major in 2nd Bn. Hq. One senior sergeant and one sergeant were interpreters in the Uzbek and Turkmen languages, working in the Intelligence Sec., 2nd Bn. Hq.

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